

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 286
By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Ellen Elizabeth
"Tottie" Moore Ellis of Nashville.

WHEREAS, members of this General Assembly were saddened to learn of the death of a distinguished and beloved Tennessean, Mrs. Ellen Elizabeth "Tottie" Ellis; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ellis will live eternally in the hearts and minds of many, as she was a conservative political activist, an adept librarian, a dedicated minister's wife, loving mother, and devout community servant; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ellis began her meritorious life in Sewanee, Tennessee, the daughter of Anna Louise Clark Moore, a long-time educator and Bernie H. Moore, the celebrated former Louisiana State University football and track coach and esteemed Commissioner of the Southeastern Conference; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ellis received her bachelor's degree in chemistry from Louisiana State University at the mere age of 19; an energetic and talented young leader, "Tottie" Ellis was at the forefront of the LSU student body, serving as secretary; she was also an active member of Alpha Delta Pi Sorority and was elected one of the "Campus Beauties"; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation, Mrs. Ellis went to work for Standard Oil as a chemist, and in August of 1946, she married Carroll B. Ellis, then a doctoral student at LSU; and

WHEREAS, Reverend and Mrs. Ellis soon returned to Tennessee; Reverend Ellis began his distinguished ministry in Nashville as Mrs. Ellis sought her master's degree in library science from Peabody College; and

WHEREAS, upon completing her graduate education, Mrs. Ellis accepted a position as librarian of Dyer Observatory at Vanderbilt University, where she gave unreservedly of herself for 25 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ellis became very interested in politics in the 1970's, as she was very concerned about plight of the American family; she soon emerged as a champion of traditional values and became a national leader of the conservative women's movement; and

WHEREAS, traveling nationwide with her pro-family campaign, Mrs. Ellis served as a source of knowledge and wisdom for women's issues and family values; she was named by President Ronald Reagan to serve on the Republican Party's Family Policy Advisory Board and served as vice president of Eagle Forum and director of the Task Force on Families in Crisis under the Department of Justice; in addition, she was a frequent guest columnist for *USA Today*, writing editorials for the paper for more than seven years; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her exceptional efforts as a conservative activist, Mrs. Ellis was honored this year at the Eagle Forum's national meeting; a portion of the program was entitled "Thank You, Tottie"; and

WHEREAS, in each and every church led by her husband, Mrs. Ellis also served as an inspiring leader, utilizing her incredible gifts to reach out to those in need of kindness and spiritual renewal; she led Sunday School and Bible classes at Waverly-Belmont Church of Christ, Brookmeade Church of Christ, Otter Creek Church of Christ, and most recently, Chapel Avenue Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ellis is survived by her loving husband, Reverend Carroll Ellis, one daughter Ellen Elizabeth "Mufti" Phillips; two sons, Carroll Brooks Ellis, Jr. and Bernie Ellis; one sister, Harrienne Condra; one brother, Dr. Bernie Moore, Jr.; and five grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, it is only appropriate that this body express its heartfelt condolences to the many friends and family of this exceptional lady; although Mrs. Ellis has relinquished this life for a far better existence, it is assured that she will be fondly remembered as a great Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby pause to mourn the death of Mrs. Ellen Elizabeth "Tottie" Ellis, while also celebrating the life of this woman whose many successes and selfless contributions will be remembered for years come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final resolving clause omitted from such copy.

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Ellen Elizabeth
"Tottie" Moore Ellis of Nashville.

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Ellen Elizabeth
"Tottie" Moore Ellis of Nashville.

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Ellen Elizabeth
"Tottie" Moore Ellis of Nashville.

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Ellen Elizabeth
"Tottie" Moore Ellis of Nashville.

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Ellen Elizabeth
"Tottie" Moore Ellis of Nashville.

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Ellen Elizabeth
"Tottie" Moore Ellis of Nashville.